

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 37 and 46-50 are pending in this patent application. Support for the added claims can be found in the specification at, for example, pages 37-38 and in Figure 4.

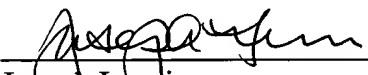
Applicants wish to thank Examiner Fay for taking the time to meet with their undersigned counsel during the interview on April 22, 2003. Applicants believe that the issues attendant to allowance of their patent claims are relatively straightforward. In an effort to highlight these issues and streamline prosecution, Applicants have canceled a number of claims (without prejudice to their presentation in one or more continuing patent applications) in the hope that by doing so the patentability of the remaining claims will be even more apparent. As discussed during the interview, the claims have been amended to indicate that the recited compositions are administered to the patient in a manner that achieves a substantially ascending methylphenidate plasma drug concentration over specified time periods following administration. Applicants' undersigned attorney thanks Examiner Fay for her indication that such amendments will be favorably considered.

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Application No.: 09/802,709

PATENT

Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned if any questions arise or further information regarding the instant patent application is needed. In view of the foregoing, however, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and therefore respectfully request an early indication of allowability.

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